

REMARKS

Claims 1-28 are pending in this application, with claims 1, 8, 17, 24 and 26 being independent. Claims 1-7, 27 and 28 have been previously withdrawn. Claims 8, 12-16 and 24 have been amended. Specifically, claim 8 has been amended to recite that the first housing includes a first display that is visible from a first side of the first housing and a second display that is visible from a second side of the first housing opposite to the first side. Claim 8 has been further amended to recite that the plurality of detector elements includes at least a first detector element and a second detector element connected in parallel, and that the first detector element detects light from the first side and the second detector element detects light from the second side. Claims 12-16 have been amended to conform to the amendment of claim 8. Claim 24 has been amended to correct a typographical error. Support for the amendment to the claims may be found in the application at least at Figs. 3 and 5 and at page 12, line 8 to page 16, line 7. No new matter has been introduced.

Independent claim 8 and its dependent claims 9, 10, 15 and 16 have been rejected as being unpatentable over Nakae (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US 2004/0166829) in view of Reime (U.S. Patent No. 6,828,536). Dependent claim 11, which depends from claim 8, has been rejected as being unpatentable over Nakae in view of Reime and Koops (U.S. Patent No. 6,504,143). Dependent claim 12, which depends from claim 8, has been rejected as being unpatentable over Nakae in view of Reime and Helms (U.S. Patent No. 5,952,992). Dependent claims 13 and 14, which depend from claim 8, have been rejected as being unpatentable over Nakae in view of Reime, Helms and Nakamura (U.S. Patent No. 6,269,256). Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 8 and its dependent claims, because neither Nakae, Reime, Koops, Helms, Nakamura, nor any proper combination of the five describes or suggests the claimed first and second detector elements that detect light from opposite sides of the first housing, as recited in amended claim 8.

Nakae describes a collapsible cellular communication terminal having a camera that includes a subhousing 11, which the Examiner equates to the recited first housing. As acknowledged by the Examiner on page 3 of the Office Action, Nakae fails to describe or

suggest a plurality of detector elements connected in parallel, and, accordingly, fails to describe or suggest the recited first and second detectors connected in parallel that detect light from opposite sides of a housing.

The Examiner relies on Reime to disclose the plurality of detector elements connected in parallel. Specifically, the Examiner equates the recited plurality of detectors with photodiodes 2-1 and 2-3 of Reime's optical switch. Nothing in either Reime or Nakae, however, describes or suggests the claimed relationship of a display housing having two detectors connected in parallel and positioned to detect light on opposite sides of the display housing. In fact, incorporation of Reime's optical switch into Nakae's device would at best result in the two photodiodes 2-1 and 2-3 being positioned on the same side, rather than on opposite sides, of Nakae's device, as shown in Fig. 2b of Reime. Koops, which is relied upon for disclosing a photodetector that is provided under operation buttons having a light-transparent property; Helms, which is relied upon for disclosing detectors that detect an intensity of illumination under different housing configurations; and Nakamura, which is relied upon for disclosing a detector that detects the brilliance of a first display portion when the first housing and the second housing are folded, also fail to describe or suggest the above feature.

For at least these reasons, applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of claim 8 and its dependent claims 9-16.

Independent claims 17, 24 and 26, and dependent claims 18, 19, 22 and 23, have been rejected as being unpatentable over Nakae in view of Reime and Helms. Dependent claim 20, which depends from claim 17, has been rejected as being unpatentable over Nakae in view of Reime, Helms and Koops. Dependent claims 21 and 25, which depend from claims 17 and 24, respectively, have been rejected as being unpatentable over Nakae in view of Reime, Helms and Nakamura.

Independent claim 17 recites a first means for detecting an intensity of illumination on a side of a first display portion of a first housing of a portable information tool. Claim 17 additionally recites a second means for displaying by controlling a brilliance of the first display portion depending upon a result detected by the first means. Neither Nakae, Reime, Helms,

Koops, Nakamura, nor any proper combination of the five describes or suggests the recited first means or the recited second means.

The Examiner equates the recited first means with one of the photodetectors 2-1 or 2-3 shown in Fig. 2b of Reime's optical switch. Notably, however, photodetectors 2-1 and 2-3 are not configured to detect light that enters the switch from outside of the switch. Rather, photodetectors 2-1 and 2-3 are configured to detect light that is irradiated from inside of the switch after the light has been reflected by an internal housing wall, as shown in Fig. 2b of Reime. Accordingly, even if photodiodes 2-1 and 2-3 were somehow incorporated into Nakae's device as suggested by the Examiner, the photodiodes 2-1 and 2-3 would not be configured to detect an intensity of illumination on a side of a display portion, which is necessarily an external side, of a housing of a portable information tool, as claimed. Moreover, Reime does not describe or suggest the controlling of a brilliance of a display depending on the results of the detection of light by photodiodes 2-1 and 2-3. Rather, Reime describes actuating the optical switch based on the results of the detection of light by photodiodes 2-1 and 2-3. Helms, Koops and Nakamura fail to cure the deficiency of Reime and Nakamura to describe or suggest these features.

For at least these reasons, applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of claim 17 and its dependent claims 18-23.

Independent claim 24 recites obtaining a first result of detection by detecting an intensity of illumination on a side of a first display portion using a first detector in a state where a first housing and a second housing are opened, and displaying by controlling a brilliance of the first display portion depending upon the first result of detection. Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 24 and its dependent claim 25 because neither Nakae, Reime, Helms, Koops, Nakamura, nor any proper combination of the five describes or suggests these features.

The Examiner equates the recited first detector with one of the photodetectors 2-1 or 2-3 shown in Fig. 2b of Reime's optical switch. As stated above, photodiodes 2-1 and 2-3 are configured to detect light irradiated from the inside of the optical switch and not light that enters the optical switch from the outside. Accordingly, even if photodiodes 2-1 and 2-3 were

somewhat incorporated into Nakae's device as suggested by the Examiner, the photodiodes 2-1 and 2-3 would not be configured to enable a first result of detection to be obtained by detecting an intensity of illumination on a side of a display portion, which is necessarily an external side, of a housing of a portable information tool, as claimed. Moreover, as stated above, Reime does not describe or suggest the controlling of a brilliance of a display depending on the results of the detection of light by photodiodes 2-1 and 2-3, and, therefore, necessarily fails to describe or suggest displaying by controlling a brilliance of the first display portion depending upon the first result of detection. Helms, Koops and Nakamura fail to cure the deficiency of Reime and Nakamura to describe or suggest these features.

For at least these reasons, applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of claim 24 and its dependent claim 25.

Independent claim 26 recites obtaining a first result of detection by detecting a brilliance of a first display portion using a first detector element in a state where a first housing and a second housing are folded, obtaining a second result of detection by detecting an intensity of illumination on a side of the first display portion using a second detector element in a state where the first housing and the second housing are opened, and displaying by controlling the brilliance of the first display portion depending upon the first result of detection and the second result of detection. For at least the reasons described above with respect to claim 24, applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 26 because neither Nakae, Reime, Helms, Koops, Nakamura, nor any proper combination of the five describes or suggests these features.

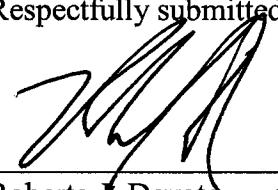
Applicants submit that all claims are in condition for allowance.

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The fees in the amount of \$120 for one month extension of time are being paid concurrently herewith on the Electronic Filing System (EFS) by way of Deposit Account authorization. Please apply any other charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,



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